

ABSTRACT

An optical device diffracts incident light with a hologram element 19 and receives the diffracted light with light receiving regions 20A to 29 on a light receiving element 12.

- 5 The light receiving element 12 separately receives reflected main beams used to read information from an optical disc and reflected sub-beams used for a tracking operation with different ones of the light receiving regions. The light receiving regions to receive the reflected main beams are common irrespective of the wavelengths of the reflected main beams. The light receiving regions to receive the reflected sub-beams are different
- 10 depending on the wavelengths of the reflected sub-beams. The optical device can record and/or reproduce information signals to and/or from optical discs, which need light sources of different wavelengths, without the influence of unnecessary reflected light from the optical discs or without complicating operation of output signals.